



# TENNIS

### GUIDELINES AND GROUND RULES

The 200 Palarong Pambansa Tennis Tournament shall abide by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) Rules of Tennis. The following Ground Rules shall be strictly implemented.

#### I. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

1. Singles Competition, Doubles Competition and Team Competition shall constitute the Tennis Tournament.
2. Single Elimination format shall be implemented in Singles, Doubles and Team Competition.
3. Two Singles matches and a Doubles match shall compose the Team Competition. In case the result was distributed among competing teams, a Singles match shall be played to decide the winner of the Tie. (Singles – Doubles – Deciding Singles)
4. Seedings in Singles and Doubles Competition (and in Team Competition) shall be based on the result of the last Palarong Pambansa administered by DepED. Drawing of lots shall be done to determine pairing of players/team.
5. All matches shall be played in one (1) Set (8 – Game Pro Set), which means a player or team who scores eight (8) games win the Set and Match, provided he wins by a majority of two (2) games. If a set score is tied at 8 – 8 all, it shall be decided by a 7-point Tiebreak Game, which means a player or team who scores seven (7) points win the Tiebreak Game and Match provided he wins by a majority of two points.

#### II. NUMBER OF ENTRIES

1. Each team must have a maximum of four (4) players.

2. Each region is entitled to two (2) entries in Singles competition (Singles A & B), one (1) entry in Doubles Competition and one (1) entry in Team Competition (Singles-Doubles-Deciding Singles)
3. In Individual Competition (Singles & Doubles) fixed entries shall prevail, which means entries in Singles are not allowed to play in Doubles – vice versa. Entries in Bracket A are not allowed to play in Bracket B – vice versa.
4. In Team Competition “blind” entries shall prevail, which means every time a match or tie was scheduled the Team Captain shall be provided with an entry form and his players are allowed to play in any one (1) of Singles A & B or in Doubles – mandatory fielding of four (4) players.

### III. SCHEDULE OF GAMES

1. All first matches scheduled in the morning shall start at exactly 7:00 a.m. until all scheduled morning matches for the day are concluded. All first matches scheduled in the afternoon shall start at exactly 12:30 p.m. until all scheduled afternoon matches for the day are concluded.
2. All morning and afternoon scheduled matches shall be played based on availability of court, in succession, continuous and without interruption.

### IV. COURT DISCIPLINE

1. In all Tennis matches, infraction on the rules of behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct, ball and racket abuse shall be penalized (*please see Enclosure No. 1 – Guidelines for Assessing Penalties*). A three-stage point penalty schedule shall be applied.
2. Conduct of Coaches before, during and after the match shall be exemplary. Improper behavior by the Coach/Team Captain and Players directed to meet officials are liable to disciplinary actions. It may be in the form of game suspension, suspension from the rest of the tournament or as the case may be, it can be a lifetime suspension from any tournament administered by DepED.

In case of physical abuse or grave misconduct, the Tournament Manager, Referee or the Chair Umpire has the right to eject coaches involved. Violations of the Regulations regarding the Coach/Captain's Behavior (Team Competitions) shall be in accordance with the following:

First offense	-	1 <sup>st</sup> warning
Second offense	-	2 <sup>nd</sup> warning
Third offense	-	Removal

## V. UNFINISHED GAMES

1. In case of inclement weather or fortuitous event, matches shall be postponed and must be rescheduled. In any case of postponement, standing score shall be carried in the resumption of games and occupancy of the court shall be followed.

## VI. PROTESTS

1. Protest on **technicalities** shall be in writing and submitted to the Referee, signed by the Head of Delegation and Coach within one (1) hour after the conclusion of the game in protest.

## VII. CODE OF CONDUCT

1. It shall be the responsibility of the coach and players to know schedule of games.
2. Players who present themselves in acceptable tennis attire aside from the official color of teams shall be accepted.
3. Coaches and players must present their ID cards for proper identification before the game starts. Failure to do so may cause game forfeiture.
4. The Chair Umpire is the official timer of the match. A player/team not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes is liable for default.
5. Players and coaches shall always conduct themselves in a manner which will reflect favorably upon the game of tennis and themselves as true gentlemen.

## VIII. COACHING

1. In Team Competition (Singles-Doubles-Deciding Singles) **coaching is allowed** on designated areas of the court. Coaches may coach only during the ninety (90) seconds change ends.
2. In Individual Competition (Singles & Doubles) **coaching is not allowed**. Coaching is considered to be any communication, advice of any kind audible or visible to a player.
3. No Cheering/Heckling – Coaches shall not cheerlead. A simple “Good shot” or a polite clap is not considered as cheer leading.
4. Coaches shall not in any way distract or annoy officiating officials and the opposing player.

5. A coach shall not initiate conversation and argue with the opposing players and officiating officials during the match.

## **IX. CHANGES / MODIFICATIONS**

1. All Coaches and Officiating Officials shall be notified immediately of any necessary changes and amendments of the aforementioned Ground Rules.